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R 031418Z SEP 75 FM SECSTATE WASHDC TO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BDIS, AG

SUBJECT: TRADE COMPLAINT - DAVIS MUD AND CHEMICAL CO.

- 1. J.D. SWANSON OF DAVIS MUD AND CHEMICAL, FORMER PARTNER WITH SONATRACH IN JOINT VENTURE ALFLUID, TODAY INFORMED DEPTOFF OF PROBLEM DAVIS ENCOUNTERING IN REPATRIATING APPROX. \$240,000 RESULTING FROM LIQUIDATION ITS INVESTMENT IN ALFLUID.
- 2. ACCORDING TO SWANSON, DAVIS SOLD ITS INTEREST IN ALFLUID TO MIL CHEM, A DIVISION OF BAKER OIL TOOLS, OVER 18 MONTHS AGO. MIL CHEM MADE PAYMENT TO CENTRAL BANK OF ALGERIA AND DAVIS HAS BEEN TRYING SINCE THEN TO HAVE MONEY TRANSFERRED TO U.S. IN ACCORDANCE WITH ALGERIAN INVESTMENT CODE. COMPANY REPRESENTATIVES HAVE MADE FOUR OR FIVE TRIPS TO ALGERIA IN CONNECTION WITH THIS PROBLEM, BUT SWANSON ASSERTS EACH TIME NEW REQUIREMENT IS IMPOSED. THE LATEST IS FOR UNSPECIFIED DOCUMENT FROM MINISTER OF FINANCE.
- 3. SWANSON SAID HIS FIRM DECIDED NOT REPEAT NOT TO EMPLOY LOCAL LAWYER TO ASSIST SETTLEMENT BECAUSE LAWYER ENGAGED LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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TO PURSUE THEIR 20,000 DOLLAR CLAIM AGAINST SONAREM

(MARIE CLAUDE RADIEWSKY) HAS PRODUCED NO REPEAT NO RESULTS IN THRE YEARS CASE HAS BEEN PENDING.

- 4. SWANSON SAID DAVIS MUD DISCUSSED ALFLUID CASE WITH SOMEONE AT USINT PRIOR TO RESUMPTION RELATIONS, BUT DID NOT HAVE DETAILS. SWANSON STATED THAT ALFLUID PRESIDENT BENOUNICHE IS KNOWLEDGEABLE ABOUT CASE AND COULD PROVIDE EMBASSY BACKGROUND IF DESIRED.
- 5. EMBASSY REQUESTED SEEK EXPLANATION FROM APPROPRIATE GOA AUTHORITIES AS TO WHY DAVIS PAYMENT BEING DELAYED AND ASK WHAT MUST BE DONE TO RESOLVE PROBLEM. ROBINSON

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TAGS: BDIS, AG To: ALGIERS

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